GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:176
ANSWERED ON:18.02.2009
LIFE EXPECTANCY
Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the life expectancy rate in the country has substantially increased since independence;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government to further increase the rate of life expectancy of the people?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)
(a) & (b): The "Life Expectancy at Birth" measures the average number of years a person is expected to live under prevailing mortality conditions. According to estimates released by the Office of Registrar General of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, the "Life Expectancy at Birth" in years for male and female has increased since independence and a Statement giving the estimates over the years is annexed.

(c) : The Government of India, Ministry of Health and family Welfare, has launched the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) in order to improve the availability of and access to quality health care. Under NRHM emphasis has been laid to provide accessible, affordable, accountable, effective, reliable, and quality primary health care especially, to the poor and vulnerable sections of the population through improved hospital care measured through Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS), decentralization of programme to district level to improve intra and inter-sectoral convergence, creation of a cadre of Accredited Social Health Activities (ASHA), and effective utilization of resources. NRHM seeks to strengthen the Public Health delivery system at all levels.